

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below under my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**PROCESS FOR TREATING SMECTITE CLAYS TO FACILITATE EXFOLIATION**

the Specification of which

☒ is attached hereto  
☒ was filed on April 27, 2000  
as Application Serial No. 09/559,686  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified Specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 (a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

<u>PRIOR FOREIGN FILED APPLICATION(S)</u>		
<u>APPLICATION</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>PRIORITY</u>
<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>(MONTH/DAY/YYYY)</u>	<u>CLAIMED</u>

09/559,686

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

APPLICATION NUMBER(S)  
60/131,415

FILING DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)  
04/28/99

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent <u>Application No.</u>	PCT Parent <u>Number</u>	Parent Filing <u>(MM/DD/YYYY)</u>	Parent Patent <u>Number (if applicable)</u>
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I hereby appoint as my attorneys or agents the registered persons identified under

**Customer No. 23565**

for the law firm of Klauber & Jackson, said attorneys or agents with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please address all correspondence regarding this application to **Customer No. 23565**.

STEFAN J. KLAUBER, ESQ.  
KLAUBER & JACKSON  
411 HACKENSACK AVENUE  
HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY 07601

Direct all telephone calls to Stefan J. Klauber at (201) 487-5800.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the



## ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I/we, the undersigned,

CLOIS E. POWELL, residing at  
336 Lake Ridge Drive  
Seguin, Texas 78155

being citizen(s) of the United States of America, have invented certain new and useful improvements in a

## PROCESS FOR TREATING SMECTITE CLAYS TO FACILITATE EXFOLIATION

for which I/we have filed an Application for Letters Patent in the United States on April 27, 2000 as U.S. Serial No. 09/559,686; and

WHEREAS, SOUTHERN CLAY PRODUCTS, INC.

a corporation of the State of Texas having a place of business  
at 1212 Church Street  
Gonzales, Texas 78629

is desirous of obtaining the entire right, title and interest in, to and under the said improvements and the said application;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of \$1.00 to me/us in hand paid, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I/we, the said

CLOIS E. POWELL

have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, to the said

SOUTHERN CLAY PRODUCTS, INC.

its successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in, to and under the said improvements, and the said application and all divisions, renewals, continuations, continuations-in-part, extensions, renewals and reissues thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted thereon and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all applications for Letters Patent which may hereafter be filed for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States, including the right to claim priority under the terms of any appropriate International Convention based upon said application for Letters Patent of the United States, and all Letters Patent which may be granted for said improvements in any country or countries foreign to the United States and extensions, renewals and reissues thereof; and we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States and any official of any country

or countries foreign to the United States, whose duty it is to issue patents on applications as aforesaid, to issue all Letters Patent for said improvements to the said

SOUTHERN CLAY PRODUCTS, INC.

its successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

AND I/WE HEREBY covenant that I/we have full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that I/we have not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

AND I/WE HEREBY further covenant and agree that I/we will communicate to

SOUTHERN CLAY PRODUCTS, INC.

its successors, legal representatives and assigns, any fact known to us respecting said improvements, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisions, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything possible to aid the said

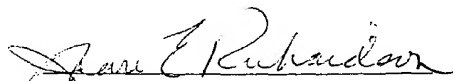
SOUTHERN CLAY PRODUCTS, INC.

its successors, legal representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce proper Patent Protection for said improvements in the United States.

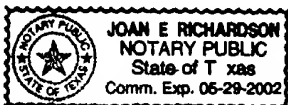
  
CLOIS E. POWELL

State of Texas :  
: ss.  
County of Gonzales :

Before me this 9 day of August 2000, personally appeared CLOIS E. POWELL, to me personally known to be the person who is described in and who executed the above instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same of his/her own free will for the purposes therein set forth.

  
Notary Public

(Affix Seal Here)





2100  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER  
OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

NOVEMBER 06, 2000

PTAS

KLAUBER & JACKSON  
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HACKENSACK, NY 07601



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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
NOTICE OF RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT

THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECORDED BY THE ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OF THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. A COMPLETE MICROFILM COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ASSIGNMENT SEARCH ROOM ON THE REEL AND FRAME NUMBER REFERENCED BELOW.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS NOTICE. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS RECORDATION NOTICE REFLECTS THE DATA PRESENT IN THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM. IF YOU SHOULD FIND ANY ERRORS OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS NOTICE, YOU MAY CONTACT THE EMPLOYEE WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS NOTICE AT 703-308-9723. PLEASE SEND REQUEST FOR CORRECTION TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, ASSIGNMENT DIVISION, BOX ASSIGNMENTS, CG-4, 1213 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY, SUITE 320, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

RECORDATION DATE: 08/28/2000

REEL/FRAME: 011079/0018

NUMBER OF PAGES: 3

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

POWELL, CLOIS E.

DOC DATE: 08/09/2000

ASSIGNEE:

SOUTHERN CLAY PRODUCTS, INC.  
1212 CHURCH STREET  
GONZALES, TEXAS 78629

SERIAL NUMBER: 09559686

FILING DATE: 04/27/2000

PATENT NUMBER:

ISSUE DATE:

MARY BENTON, EXAMINER  
ASSIGNMENT DIVISION  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

RECEIVED

NOV 10 2000

KLAUBER & JACKSON